Rocky Balboa

English 4th Period

January 1, 2025

Hadrian’s Wall

55 B.C, is the year in which the Romans first invaded Britain under Julius Caesar but it was not until almost a century later in 43 A.D, during the reign of the Emperor Claudius that the full scale Roman conquest and occupation of Britain really began.

By A.D 70 a powerful army led by the Roman Governor of Britain Julius Agricola, had captured most of southern Britain and advanced into the northern part of our country. Here they defeated two great Celtic tribes, the Brigantes at Scotch Corner to the south of the Tees and the Picts at the Battle of Mons Grapius in Caledonia.

Victory over the Picts was not difficult for the might of the Roman army, but the wild mountainous terrain of Caledonia made the total subjugation of this remote Highland people a formidable and rather unprofitable task. When the Roman Emperor Hadrian visited Britain in 122 A.D he recognized the difficulties in establishing control in Caledonia and saw that it would be impossible to introduce the Picts to the Roman way of life. The Emperor therefore ordered the construction of a great defensive wall which would mark the northern limits of his empire and consolidate the hold on those parts of Britain already subdued. Hadrian's empire would not include Caledonia.

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***St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton